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Abstract

When the data integrity of software is checked for transmission errors and authenticity during a download process, the flashed data must be checked repeatedly. The access or the access time to program data which is stored in the flash memory is lengthy. Particularly in the case of control devices in the motor vehicle, which generally have low computing powers for reasons of cost, a long access time for complex calculations such authenticity checking gives rise to unacceptable delays. According to the invention, checking of program data for transmission errors and authenticity can be configured in an efficient way if the calculation methods for checking for transmission errors and for checking for authenticity are carried out as long as the flashware is located in a buffer with a fast access time. Lengthy access processes to the flash memory are therefore avoided. While in the past it has been necessary to access the flash memory whenever the flashware was checked, with the method according to the invention it is only necessary to access the flash memory once in order to buffer the flashware in a buffer with a fast access time for all the necessary checks.